GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:517
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2001
ACCELERATED URBAN WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme(AUWSP) is sponsored by the Central Government to provide financial assistance of about 50 per cent to the water supply schemes for small towns having population of less than 20,000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government for increasing the population norms from 20,000 persons to 40,000 persons and also per capita cost of the scheme from Rs.1000/- to Rs.2400/-;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a)to(e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENTREFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.517 FOR 28.8.2001 REGARDING ACCELERATED URBAN WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME.

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): A Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) was launched in 1993-94 for providing Central assistance to State Governments by the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation for implementation of water supply schemes in the towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census. Central assistance is provided by the Ministry on 50:50 matching share between the Centre and the State. The Ministry has so far approved schemes for 575 towns under AUWSP at an estimated cost of Rs.708.50 crores and Central assistance of Rs.281.24 crores has been released to different States so far. This includes Rs.21.95 crores released to the Government of Maharashtra for 20 towns at a total estimated cost of Rs.49.06 crores.

As per the guidelines of the scheme, the towns are to be selected by a State Level Selection Committee keeping in view the population criteria, dependability/reliability of the water source, priorities for towns with special problems, such as, very low per capita water supply, very distant or deep water source and drought prone areas. The per capita unit cost should normally be limited to Rs.1,000/-. However, if the per capita cost is more, specific justification is required to be furnished in the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

(c)to(e): No, Sir. However, in a review meeting held by the Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation on June 6, 2001, representatives from State Governments, including Maharashtra, were requested to forward their proposals for changes in norms under the AUWSP for consideration of the Tenth Plan working group.